



CASA OF YAVAPAI COUNTY

In this Issue.....

Happy New Year!	1
Coordinator's Corner	2
Farewell Luncheon for Barbara Perriman	3
Training Opportunities	4-6
Court Report Change!	7
Family Treatment Court	8
Community Resource	9
Gift Cards & Grants, Birthdays	10
Auto Insurance Reminder	11
CASA Children's Center	12
January Calendar	13
February Calendar	14
CASA Contact Info	15
UPCOMING EVENTS:	

Jan 1 - New Years Day -

Court offices closed

Jan 13 & 27 - Court Hearings

Jan 18 - MLK/Civil Rights Day -

Court offices closed

Jan 20 - Child Sex Trafficking Seminar

Jan 20-21 - CASA Academy-

CASA of Yavapai County

VERDE CASA NEWSLETTER January 2016

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Highlights of the CASA Holiday Party 2015



What a wonderful party!!

Everyone had a great time and thoroughly enjoyed the great food, fellowship and gift exchange.

A special **Thank You** to CASA Mary Y and her husband Mike for hosting the party in their beautiful Sedona home.



COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Mike Wade

HELLO TO ALL THE VERDE CASAS!

Due to an early snow this year, we had to reschedule our Verde CASA Holiday party for a day later, December 15th. The event was hosted by Mary Y. and her husband in Sedona. It was a great time enjoyed by all. Many of our first year CASAs attended as well as our veteran CASAs. Once again, the white elephant gift exchange proved to be as hilarious as ever. Jackie S. of course, came away with the gift of the night (a toilet shaped coffee mug), but it was quickly stolen by Mary Y.'s husband. You'll have to attend next year's party to see if the mug makes a reappearance! Again, than you all for attending and making our annual holiday event the best ever!

As many of you have heard, our CASA board has changed their name to the CASA Children's Center, Inc. All of you should have received their new Grant Request application form. Now that we are in the winter season, please remember to continue to assess your CASA child's needs. Many of our children do not have proper winter clothing and as you know, the foster parents have very limited resources to provide for these children. Please don't hesitate to request a CASA Children's Center, Inc. grant to assist in whatever your child needs. The CASA Children's Center, Inc. is here to support the children and you. Under their new leadership, you will hear of more fund raising events to support these efforts. You are also encouraged to assist your CASA child by requesting grants from the Arizona Friends of Foster Care.

Please be sure to check out the flyer on page 6 to get more information on our upcoming Sex-Trafficking presentation. You will receive training credit for attending. Now would be a good time to get started on meeting your annual 12 hours of ongoing training.

The CASA Academy for January 2016 is scheduled for the 20th and 21st in Prescott. Current CASAs are welcome to attend and receive updated training. You will be reimbursed for your mileage when you complete the 2 day training. Please inform your Coordinator of your desire to attend. The CASA Academy is scheduled for 2 days each month, therefore you will have plenty of opportunity to attend a future Academy if you are not available to attend this one.

CASA January Support Meetings

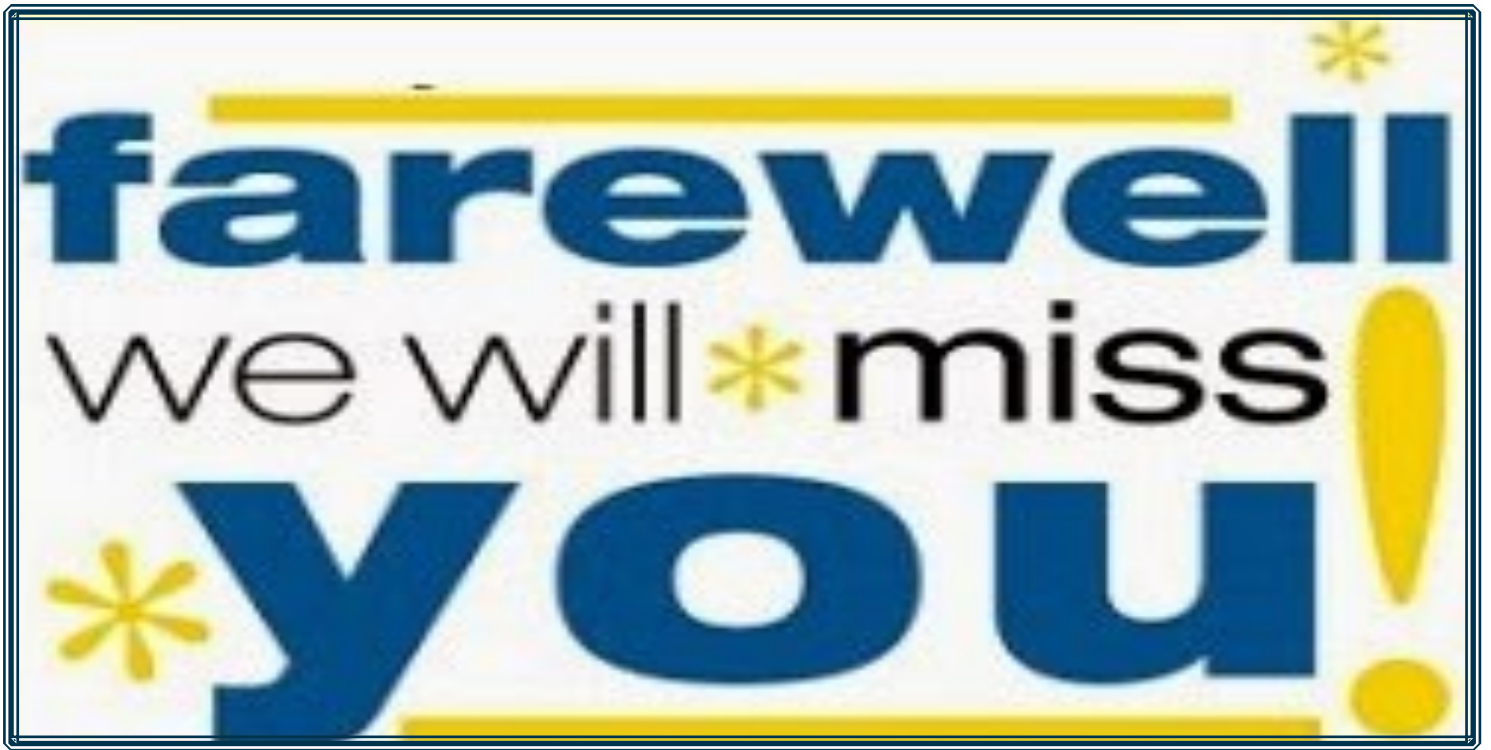
The support group conversations are insightful and colorful. These meetings are great for team building and sharing information. CASAs can attend either group that works best for your schedule. Again, all first year CASAs are expected to attend the CASA Support meetings. Please contact the CASA office for updated information on upcoming support meeting dates and locations.

As always, thank you for all you do!

Mike Wade, CASA Coordinator

mwade@courts.az.gov

928/554-8900



Please join us as we say goodbye to our dear *CASA*, Barbara Perriman. After 11 years of dedicated service to the *CASA* department, Barbara and her husband David are moving to Nevada. She will be sorely missed! We will be holding a luncheon in her honor on Wednesday, January 13 from 12-1 pm. This invitation is open to all *CASAs*, the *CASA* Board, DCS and Attorneys.

Farewell Luncheon
January 13, 2016
Camp Verde Courthouse
Jury Assembly Room, 1st Floor
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Please RSVP with Lori at 928/554-8900 or email:
larnold@courts.az.gov.

Hope to see you there!

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

Public welcome!



A Conversation to Develop Solutions to the Heroin Problem in the Verde Valley

Tuesday, January 26, 2016 | 6 pm to 8 pm

**Cottonwood Public Safety Building
199 S. Sixth Street, Cottonwood**

This is an opportunity to share your ideas and be a part of the solution to addressing the heroin problem in our community.

We will discuss:

- » Prevention
- » Intervention
- » Treatment
- » Support for Recovery

Your ideas are important!

MATFORCE
Working together to reduce substance abuse

(928) 708-0100
matforce@cableone.net

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY



Save the Date

Addressing
Opioid Dependence
in Pregnancy

Impetus for Change

NAS

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

Speakers Include:

Shefali Gandhi-List, M.D.
OB/GYN Banner Thunderbird Medical Center

Rick Christensen, P.A., CAS
Chief Medical Officer Community Medical Services

Deb Ledington, MSN, NNP-BC
Director Women & Infants Services, NAH

Friday, March 4, 2016
Verde Valley Medical Center
Conference Rooms B & C



Registration: 11:30 am
Lunch: 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Conference: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm



Verde Valley Medical Center
Northern Arizona Healthcare

(928) 708-0100 matforce@cableone.net
MATFORCE
Building Healthier Communities

Child Sex Trafficking in Our Community: Awareness and Prevention



Please join CASA Lori Rubenstein and Detective Chad Shilling as they discuss the issue of minor sex trafficking in Yavapai County .

What they know about sex trafficking is shocking and they feel an obligation to share this with you. As a CASA, you are in a particularly sensitive place to notice what is going on with the foster children. You might think that it happens primarily overseas, or maybe in Metropolitan areas, but not here, not in Yavapai County!

They will bring you the facts, and more importantly, let you know how you can make a difference.

Lori Rubenstein, peace group member and Ambassador for Shared Hope International says "The reality is that there are minors, children, who are being, bought, traded, sold, enslaved, sexually abused, beaten, used and thrown away." Rubenstein says this is unacceptable.

Also speaking is Detective Shilling with the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office. He says this is not the movie "Pretty Woman." These children need help. Yavapai County is on the forefront of addressing the issue head on. Raising awareness is the first step towards eradicating the problem.

January 20th, 2016 11 am - 1 pm
Verde Valley Courthouse Jury Assembly Room, 1st Floor

Please feel free to bring a sack lunch and invite others to join this important discussion

VERDE REPORT & REVIEW DAY CHANGE.



Beginning in
January, 2016
the court dates for
Report & Reviews
will be held on-

Wednesdays

Instead of Mondays



FAMILY TREATMENT COURT PROVIDES RECOVERY SUPPORT

What is Family Treatment Court and how can it help parents who struggle with substance abuse?

Family Treatment Court is a voluntary Drug Court program designed to provide structure and support for parents who are working to remain clean and sober from drugs and alcohol. For approximately nine months to a year, participants in Family Treatment Court are provided with substance abuse treatment services and their progress is reviewed by the Court in regularly set hearings. The goal of Family Treatment Court is to guide parents into a substance free lifestyle and ultimately reunify their families.

According to the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, “Parents in Drug Court are twice as likely to go to treatment and complete it.” Why? The Court sets parameters and monitors them closely. There are three phases in Family Treatment Court and each one consists of specific guidelines. Parents are held accountable for submitting clean and timely UAs, getting a sponsor, meeting with treatment counselors, obtaining a job, and attending twelve-step support meetings. Incentives and consequences have been integrated to keep participants motivated to advance their recovery efforts.

As an added benefit, participants in Family Treatment Court attend our required parent support group prior to every Family Treatment Court hearing. This group is specific to the needs of this program and provides recovery guidance combined with useful parenting education. They have had lessons on topics such as: *Building Your Self Esteem as a Parent; How to get Respect from your Family, Friends, and Co-Workers; The Difference between Good Stress and Bad Stress; and How Attitude Can Change Your Circumstances*. Along with inspirational topics, this group allows for encouragement and collaboration between parents in a confidential setting. It is an opportunity to learn alongside peers who are in the same situation, but at various stages in their recovery and dependency cases. They offer words of encouragement to each other. They watch each other's struggles and successes and find inspiration along the way.

Participation in Family Treatment Court demonstrates a parent's commitment to sobriety, and fulfilling all program obligations is a well earned achievement. A graduate from Family Treatment Court is recognized by the Court, the team, and fellow participants. The majority of Family Treatment Court graduates find success in their dependency cases.

CASAs may attend team staffing with the Family Treatment Court Judge to learn about a parent's status in the program and may be given the opportunity to provide important insight that assists in making decisions on behalf of the parent. It is also an opportunity to be there in support of parents in the hearing, and to celebrate phase promotions and graduations!

To learn more about this program, Kristi Newman, Program Coordinator, may be reached at knewman@courts.az.gov or by phone at (928) 771-3398.



OUT OF AFRICA

WILDLIFE PARK

Shows:	Activities:	Marketplace:
Tiger Splash	African Bush Safari	Jungle Hut Eatery
Creature Feature	Predator Feed	Thee Place
Giant Snake Show	Wildlife Preserve	Community Aviary
Wonders of Wildlife Show	Reptile Resort	Gift Shop

VISIT FREE DURING THE MONTH OF YOUR BIRTHDAY!!

FREE park admission to Out of Africa Wildlife Park during the ENTIRE MONTH of your birthday! There's no 'catch'.

Just show your picture I.D. at the admissions window (or a copy of your child's birth certificate for the youngsters)

HINT: Go on the adult's birthday month and pay for the child(ren) only!

There is a \$6 discount for AAA Members and watch for the \$4 off coupons in the free advertising booklets that come in the mail!

Hours:

Mon – Fri: 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Sat – Sun: 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Closed on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day

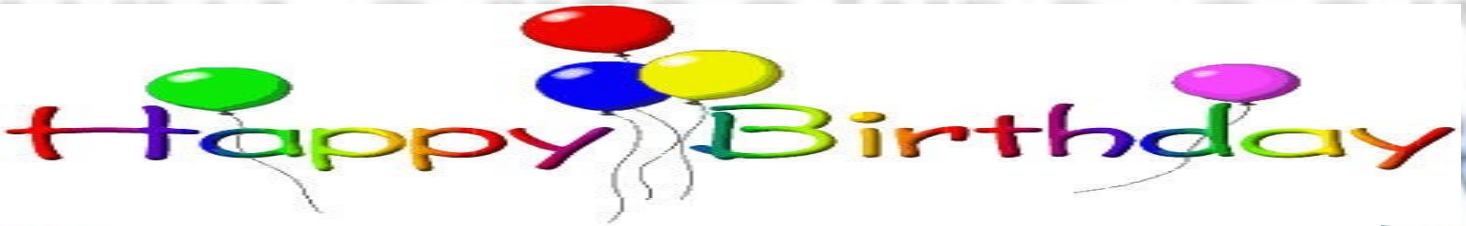
Located at 3505 W Hwy 260, Camp Verde (928)567-2840 www.outofafricapark.com

GIFT CARDS AND GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Verde CASA office continues to have gift cards that can be used for your CASA child(ren). These gift cards are supplied by the CASA Children's Center, Inc. These cards can be used to celebrate an 'A' on a report card, a holiday or birthday or simply a way to provide a smile on the face of your child. We also encourage you to utilize the CASA Children's Center grant request for the needs of your child(ren). Bikes, books, beds, classes, art supplies.....
If you have an idea, please ask.



Gift cards and Grant forms available at the Verde CASA office



January Birthdays

~ NO January Birthdays! ~

Before rushing in for a facelift, Michelle checks out how it looks on the cat





Got Insurance???

CASAs—Has your automobile insurance recently been renewed? Did you remember to bring a copy of your renewal to the CASA office? If you are unsure, please check with Michelle or Lori to make sure they have a copy of your most recent insurance card. The CASA office is required to keep updated copies of your insurance card on file. We appreciate your help in this matter.

A decorative border of colorful hands (red, blue, yellow, green) surrounds the central text area.

CASA CHILDREN'S CENTER

(Formerly Verde Valley Children's Foundation)

A note from President Jackie Smollar


The Verde Valley CASA Children's Foundation is now using our legal name, which is CASA Children's Center, Inc. Turns out we are not technically a foundation in the eyes of the IRS, so to keep everything clear, we are using our actual IRS name. We are still a non-profit and all donations are tax deductible, and we are still the same people and still doing the same things for the children you serve.

For example, in November we awarded funds for winter clothing for children of all ages and tutoring for a teenager. This first week in December we are launching our holiday letter fundraising campaign asking former donors and potential new donors to include our organization in their holiday gift-giving plans. We also have launched our website which will be referenced in the letter. The website address is vvcasachildrenscenter.org. It has a Paypal "Donate" button that can be used to make a donation on line via credit card.

The plan is to continually update the "Stories" page so that the website will be a dynamic representation of what we do. Check it out and be sure to let Jackie Smollar know if you have any ideas or concerns. We on the board of the CASA Children's Center wish all of you a wonderful holiday season and, as always, thank you for what you do.

Verde CASA Calendar

January 2016

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
				1 New Years Day Court offices closed
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13 VERDE COURT HEARINGS 1:30—5 PM *NEW DAY*	14	15
18 Civil Rights Day Court offices closed <i>I Have A Dream</i>  Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	19	20 Child Sex Trafficking Seminar 11-1 pm CASA ACADEMY-PRESCOTT 8:30 - 5	21 CASA ACADEMY-PRESCOTT 8:30 - 5	22
25	26	27 VERDE COURT HEARINGS 1:30—5 PM	28	29

January at a Glance

- Jan 1 New Years Day - Court offices closed
- Jan 6 & 20 Court Hearings 1:30 - 5:00
- Jan 18 MLK/Civil Rights Day - Court Offices closed
- Jan 20 Child Sex Trafficking Seminar - 11 - 1 pm
(see pg. 6)
- Jan 20 - 21 CASA Academy, Prescott Juvenile Justice (JJC)
8:30am—5:00pm



Verde CASA Calendar

February 2016

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10 VERDE COURT HEARINGS 1:30—5 PM	11	12
15	16	17 CASA ACADEMY-PRESCOTT 8:30 - 5	18 CASA ACADEMY-PRESCOTT 8:30 - 5	19
22	23	24 VERDE COURT HEARINGS 1:30—5 PM	25	26
29				

February at a Glance

Feb 14th...Happy Valentine's Day!

Feb. 10 & 24 Verde Court Hearings 1:30—5:00 pm

Feb 17 & 18 CASA Academy, Prescott Juvenile Justice (JJC)
8:30am—5:00pm



Contact Information

CASA OF YAVAPAI COUNTY

WE'RE ON THE WEB

**[HTTP://WWW.AZCOURTS.GOV/CASAOFYAVAPAI
COUNTY/HOME.ASPX](http://www.azcourts.gov/casaofyavapaicounty/home.aspx)**

CASA of Yavapai County

Phone: 928-554-8900

Fax: 928-554-8901

Camp Verde:

Mike Wade, CASA Coordinator

(928) 554-8903

Email: mwade@courts.az.gov

Michelle Ashley, Support Staff

(928) 554-8902

Email: mashley@courts.az.gov

Lori Arnold, Support Staff

(928) 554-8904

Email: larnold@courts.az.gov

Prescott:

Quinci Castleberry, Program Manager

(928) 777-7900

Email: qcastleberry@courts.az.gov

CASA Coordinator/Vacant

(928) 777-7901

Cindy Miller, CASA Coordinator

(928) 777-7622

Email: cmiller@courts.az.gov

Lynda Ransom, CASA Support Staff

(928) 777-7902

Email: lransom@courts.az.gov

Charlotte Winder, CASA Support Staff

(928) 771-3165

Email: cwinder@courts.az.gov

**Kristen Newman, Family Treatment Court
Coordinator (928) 771-3398**

Email: knewman@courts.az.gov

**CASA Children's Center
Serving our Court Protected Children
and the CASA Program
Court Appointed
Special Advocates
...a child's voice in court**



Verde Valley CASA Children's Foundation

Board Members:

Jackie Smollar, President, 703/868-8169

Email: Jackie.smollar@gmail.com

Lori Winston, Vice President 520/470-9079

Email: lori.winston@gmail.com

Terry Schick, Treasurer 928/853-0653

Carol Lucas, Secretary 928/301-2121

Leslie Stevens, Financial Assistance Mngr 928/300-2537

Directors:

Amanda Cannon 928/649-6839

Duane Wyles 928/634-4913

Karin Krippene 928/592-9483 or 928/274-1385

Betty Chester 928/567-7137

Patrick Gray 928/862-0215

Advisors

Elisa Richards 928/639-2611

Betty Hart 928/567-2946 or 928/963-0050

Mike Wade 928/254-0013

DON'T LET

ANYONE

EVER

DULL YOUR

SPARKLE